

## 148-150 West Main Street

Few of Westminster's houses are unaltered; practically all of them have at least some parts which date from a period different from that of the main bulk. This quality is nowhere more obvious than at no. 148-150 West Main Street a ("building which combines two different structures and styles and does not even attempt to hide their separateness.") The eastern piece is the older; it is a 2 bay by 4 bay section which was undoubtedly intended to work with no. 146, located just to the east across Maryland Avenue. The gable end of 148, which faces West Main Street, is almost identical with the gable of no. 146, including the eaves complete with strawberry leaves and pendants. The only difference is that this building is laid in 5 course common bond and not clapboard as is its neighbor. The other section, numbered 150 West Main Street, was built about 20 years later. This addition is essentially a 3 bay wide, 3 bay deep brick box, whose angularity is relieved on the south facade by a two story bow front bulge which comprises the eastern third of that facade. All windows here and in no. 148 are 1/1 double-hung sash. Thus in decoration as well as in form, numbers 148-150 have links with several buildings in Westminster's West End. The buildings have recently been successfully adapted into physicians' offices.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CAM 456

0704564504

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

House of Francis Shriver

AND/OR COMMON

Offices of Drs. Mercer & O'Rourke

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

148-150 West Main Street (MD 32)

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Carroll

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

— DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

— STRUCTURE

— SITE

— OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

— PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

— BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

— IN PROCESS

— BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED

— UNOCCUPIED

— WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

— YES: UNRESTRICTED

— NO

**PRESENT USE**

— AGRICULTURE

— COMMERCIAL

— EDUCATIONAL

— ENTERTAINMENT

— GOVERNMENT

— INDUSTRIAL

— MILITARY

— MUSEUM

— PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

— RELIGIOUS

— SCIENTIFIC

— TRANSPORTATION

☒ OTHER Drs.

Offices

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Medical Profession Service

Telephone #: 848-3818

STREET & NUMBER

150 West Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21157

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Office Building

Liber #: 492

Folio #: 705

STREET & NUMBER

Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

|   |                                       |   |   |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>CONDITION</b>                              |                                       | <b>CHECK ONE</b>                            | <b>CHECK ONE</b>                                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD                 | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR                 | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED    |   |   |

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Few of Westminster's houses are unaltered; practically every one has at least some parts which date from a period different from that of the main bulk. This quality is nowhere more obvious than it is here at no. 148-150 West Main Street, a "building" which combines two different structures and styles and does not even attempt to hide their separateness. The eastern piece is probably the older. It fronts West Main Street on the northwest side of that street's intersection with Maryland Avenue in Westminster. A two bay by four bay section, this section was undoubtedly intended to work with no. 146 across Maryland Avenue. The gable end of this building, which faces West Main Street, is almost identical with the gable end of no. 146; two 1/1 bays wide, the facade (south) has the same sized attic window and the same eaves trim complete with strawberry leaves and pendants. The difference is that this building is laid in 5 course common bond and not clapboard, and that the attic window here is different (and consists of a pair of 1/1 windows, the top half consisting of nine panes of colored glass, underneath the fan light). The major difference, however, is that no. 148 has a heavy-corniced porch across the south facade's ground floor, a porch which is supported by fine wooden Doric columns. To the east the original section of this facade is 3 bays deep: each bay consists of a window (6 evenly spaced on the two floors) and each window is identical to those described on the south facade, consisting of 1/1 panes, brown wooden sills, 3 course gauged flat arches, and dark brown louvered shutters. This was probably the original house; a house of this size is shown on the lot on the 1877 plat of the City. Later, clapboard additions were added to the north: 3 such additions seem evident. The first, two bays deep (four 1/1 windows evenly spaced on two floors). The second consists of one louvered vent on each floor; the final, under a shed roof, has a four-panel door on the ground floor with a 1/1 window on it to the north of it, and a small one-light window on the second floor. All these additions are executed in clapboard which is painted the same beige as the original sections; the eaves' treatment continues down this facade until the shed roof begins. The door and the vent and window enframingent are covered by a thick shed-roofed porch. There is a 2/2 window in the north facade of the gable-thick section, and a similar on the second floor of the shed-roofed addition.

Probably built about 20 years later, judging by style and other buildings in the City, 150 is essentially a three bay wide, three bay deep brick box, whose angularity is relieved on the south facade by a two-story bow front bulge which comprises the eastern third of that facade. The bow has two 1/1 windows on each of its two floors, aligned with the two other 1/1 windows on the second floor, and one on the ground floor; in the center of the ground floor is a half-wood, half-glass entrance door which is sheltered from the sun by a shed-roofed awning, supported by slightly bowed brackets. These windows are treated similarly to those of 148's south facade. Number 150 extends slightly further south than 148, and this extension is built in on the east above the porch by a 1/1 window on the

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

| PERIOD  | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING     | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC     | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION           | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS              | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION              | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |   |  |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Each section of the buildings that comprise 148-150 would be fine as a separate entity; each is finally executed itself, and each is a product of a different, but well-established, architectural pattern. The bow-front of no. 150 is almost identical to that earlier building in the City, no. 83 West Main Street (q.v.), but is done here on a slightly larger scale. It, like its antecedent, represents another step in the long local career of the three-bay house. On the other hand, the gabled front of no. 150, combines very well with the gabled section of its neighbor across Maryland Avenue, no. 146. Title search reveals that the two were probably built by the same family, the Shriver's: Isaac, the father, probably built no. 146, and Francis, his son, seems to have built no. 148. Furthermore, when Francis built 148, it served to set off the fine features, of his father's house, and the two combined present twin-gabled gateposts for Maryland Avenue as it meanders northwards from West Main Street. Certain features of no. 148 make it probable that it postdated no. 146: its porch (which may or may not be original as its trim is not quite so finely done), and, its attic window, most especially, which gives in to a late-Victorian penchant for stained glass. Nevertheless, despite these minor variances, the two were probably intended to appear as a unit ("the two" meaning both 148-150, and 148 and its fatherly house, 146).

As noted, this is a Shriver house. Francis Shriver bought lot 1 of his father's subdivision on July 2, 1866 from Ira Crouse for \$500 (Carroll County Deed Book 33, Page 320). Shriver sold the place about a year later, on November 27, 1867 but this time got \$1725 for it, which ought to fairly definitely establish the house's date. He sold it to Mary E. Cookson (35/135). Mary E. Cookson suffered matrimonial changes and was known as "Mary E. Baile" when she sold the lot 40 years later to Charles P. Foutz for \$2250 on March 20, 1901 (92/386). The place stayed in the Foutz family, from Charles P. Sr., to Charles P. Jr. (through straw deeds 133/407, 133/408, 337/481, 337/543, 337/545) until Charles Foutz Jr. sold the place to Phillip W. Mercer on July 31, 1964 (376/706). Dr. Mercer has continued to own the property, having sold it to an organization he is part of, the building's present owner, Medical Profession Service, on August 3, 1971 (402/705).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being all of lot 1 of Isaac Shriver's Addition to the City of Westminster, as shown on an 1877 plat of the City.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

April

ORGANIZATION

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

#1

second floor, and under the porch, by a 6-panel entrance door which rests within a glass entrance booth. The flat roof of this section is enlivened on the sections visible from Main Street by a 2-part modillioned entablature which is supported by bone-shaped brackets; the brackets, which alternate with the windows, have two string courses running between them, one at their tops just below the modillions, and one at their bases. The three bays on the west facade of this section all consist of 6/6 windows (6 evenly spaced on two floors). This section has also undergone changes, a 3-bay, 1-story addition was built to the north (3 1/1 windows) and a two-story, two-bay section to the north of it (those 4 windows are also 1/1). Both extensions kept the flat roof motif of no. 150. The two buildings with their many clapboard additions are now shaped like a U. A double flight of wooden steps leads across the north facade of no. 148 to a centrally placed 4-panel door in the center of the north facade within the U. The east facade of no. 150's final extension has two 6/6 windows on its second floor. Several outbuildings (garages and barns) remain to the north of the building at the end of the lot. These buildings appear to be fairly recent in origin, probably dating from around the turn of this century, and are now covered in brick-colored asbestos shingle. The interior of the building has been remodeled to fit the needs of a modern medical practice.

520/0



F-3

5/2/77

CARR 456

148-150 W. MAIN ST.

S. FACADE 3/77

(C. WEEK)





CARR Y56

146-150 W. MAIN ST.

WESTMINSTER

SE facade 3/77

C. Weeks